

you can help reduce motorcyclist injuries and fatalities. For more information regarding motorcycle safety, contact the California Motorcyclist Safety Program at 1-877-RIDE-411 or www.californiamotorcyclist.com.

BICYCLES

Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicle and motorcycle drivers, including:

- Obeying all traffic signs and signal lights.
- Riding in the same direction as traffic.
- Signaling when changing lanes or turning.
- Yielding to pedestrians.
- Wearing a helmet (if under 18 years old).
- Allowing faster traffic to pass when safe.
- Staying visible (e.g., never weave between parked vehicles).
- Riding as near to the right curb or edge of the roadway as practicable.
- Not riding on the sidewalk, unless allowed by the city where you're riding.
- Making left and right turns in the same way drivers do, using the same turn lanes. If the bicyclist is traveling straight ahead, they should use a through traffic lane rather than ride next to the curb and block traffic making right turns.



Bicyclists shall not operate a bicycle on a roadway unless the bicycle is equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make a one-wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

During darkness, bicyclists should avoid wearing dark clothing and **must** have the following equipment:

- A front lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of 300 feet.
- A rear red reflector or a solid or flashing red light with a built in reflector that is visible from a distance of 500 feet.
- A white or yellow reflector on each pedal or on the bicyclist's shoes or ankles visible from a distance of 200 feet.
- A white or yellow reflector on the front wheel, a white or red reflector on the rear wheel, or reflectorized tires.



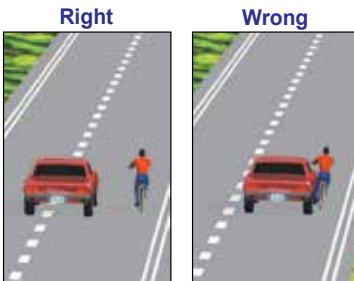
Bicyclists have the right to operate on the road and may:

- Lawfully be permitted to ride on certain sections of freeways where there is no alternate route and bicycling is not forbidden by a sign.
- Move left to avoid hazards such as parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, animals, or debris.
- Choose to ride near the left curb or edge of a one-way street.

Bicycles in Travel Lanes

Bicyclists traveling slower than the flow of traffic must ride as close as practicable to the right curb or edge of the roadway except in the following situations:

- Passing a vehicle or another bicycle in the same direction.
- Preparing to make a left turn at an intersection, into a private road, or at a driveway.
- When necessary to avoid a hazard or road condition (i.e., pedestrians, animals, surface hazards).
- When a lane is too narrow for a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side-by-side within the lane.
- When approaching a right turn.
- If the roadway is a one-way road with two or more lanes. In this case, a bicyclist may ride near the left curb or edge of roadway as practicable.



With any slow-moving vehicle or bicycle, drivers should follow at a safe distance and, when it is safe, the bicyclist should move to a position that allows vehicles to pass.

Passing a bicyclist that is in the travel lane at a safe distance may require changing into another lane, passing safely and quickly, and returning to your original lane leaving room between your vehicle and the bicyclist. When you cannot change lanes to pass a bicyclist, allow at least 3 feet between your vehicle and the bicyclist. If you are unable to pass within 3 feet of space, pass at a safe speed to not endanger the bicyclist.

Bicycles may be traveling faster than you think. Do not turn in front of a bicyclist unless there is enough time to safely make the turn.

Here are some critical points for drivers and bicyclists to remember. Motor vehicle drivers must:

- Always look carefully for bicyclists before opening doors next to moving traffic or before turning.



- Pass bicyclists allowing enough room to avoid forcing them into parked vehicles or doors that are open into traffic.
- Merge toward the curb or into the bike lane only when it is safe.
- Merge safely behind a bicyclist when preparing to make a turn.
- Only enter a bike lane no more than 200 feet before starting a turn.
- Make a visual check for bicyclists when changing lanes or entering traffic. Bicycles are small and may be hidden in a vehicle's blind spot.
- Be careful when approaching or passing a bicyclist on a two-lane roadway.

PEDESTRIANS WHO ARE BLIND

Pedestrians using guide dogs or white canes with or without a red tip must be given the right-of-way at all times. These pedestrians are partially or totally blind.

When these pedestrians are in your vicinity, be especially careful when turning corners or backing up, particularly if you are driving a quiet hybrid vehicle.

Here are some suggestions for helping pedestrians who are blind:

- **At a stop light or sign, do not stop your vehicle more than 5 feet from the crosswalk, unless there is an advance stop bar (line).** Blind pedestrians rely on the sound of your vehicle to become aware of your vehicle's presence; so, it is important that you stop your vehicle within 5 feet of the crosswalk. Drivers of hybrid or electric vehicles must remain especially aware that the lack of engine noise may cause a blind pedestrian to assume there is not a vehicle nearby. Follow this cue: When a blind person pulls in their cane and steps away from the intersection, this gesture usually means they are not ready to cross the street and for you to go.
- **Stop at all crosswalks where pedestrians are waiting.** Wait for the pedestrian to cross the street.
- **Do not stop in the middle of a crosswalk.** This forces the blind pedestrian to go around your vehicle and into traffic outside of the crosswalk.
- **Do not give the blind pedestrian verbal directions.** A blind pedestrian listens to all traffic sounds before deciding to cross the street.
- **Do not turn right without looking first.** Look for any pedestrians, especially blind pedestrians or traffic, before starting your turn. Blind pedestrians who have a green light are not expecting a driver to make a right turn in front of them. Turning may result in the blind pedestrian becoming disoriented and vulnerable to being hit by another right turning vehicle when attempting to cross the street.